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Let us Unite our Country,

AND

Create a Union in all Things.

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TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND
THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF

WE, the undersigned, being citizens of the United States, and firmly believing that the real cause of our existing troubles rests in a great want of equilibrium in the labour of our land, and that Congress should establish some form of permanent labour common to all parts of the country, whereby the South can see the expediency and advantage of gradually abolishing slavery; also giving our manufacturers the benefit of a cheaper and more practical assistance, in order to abolish the tariff on articles of necessity, and, especially, on cotton goods; we believing the same to be directly opposed to the interests of a large portion of our country, and detrimental to our position, as one, in the superior class of nations. We also firmly believe, that it is unwise in the Federal government to depend so absolutely on the military organizations of each separate State, and that, for purposes of domestic policy and protection, there should exist an efficient power, subject only to the authority of the Federal government.

We also believe that each State, in computing its power for attack and defence, among its sister States, has severely prejudiced that harmony and good feeling heretofore existing between the people of the nation in general. Therefore, as a compromise in the present imminent danger of the Union, and as a means of re-establishing, and forever securing the former peaceable and just policy among the

states in common, and of maintaining our exalted position throughout the nations of the earth, we do pray that you will petition Congress for the adoption of the following resolutions:—

An act to develop the internal resources, and increase the foreign commercial relations of the United States of America.

Resolved, That there shall be established in every State, and in every Territory of these United States, a receiving house for enlisting all persons capable, and desirous of entering the service of the Federal government, for the following purposes:—

Resolved, That on an application to Congress from any State, belonging to this Confederacy, through its Legislature, there shall be established, within boundaries to be ceded by said State to the Federal government, an institution, or institutions, for instructing and working daily at any, or all manner of labor connected with the manufacturing or agricultural arts, or at any branch of either, or of both of them.

Resolved, That the said institution, or institutions, shall be divided into two separate and distinct bodies. One thereof to consist of white males, whose age, when received, shall not be under eighteen years, nor over forty years. The other to consist of negro males, whose age, when received, shall not be under eighteen years, nor over forty years; and that either, or both of the above, shall be established in any State upon complying with the foregoing enactments.

Resolved, That the general government of the United States shall have the sole power to draft into either of the said institutions any person who may be enlisted for such purposes.

Resolved, That the terms of enlistment shall be as follows:—

That on the part of the person or persons so enlisting, he, or they, shall bind himself, or themselves, to continue in some institution, or institutions, for the term of two years, and then be at the disposal of the United States' government, for purposes hereinafter mentioned, for the

space of three years; making himself, or themselves, under obligations to the government of the United States for at least five years.

That, on the part of the United States, it shall be the duty of the government to give unto each person entering his choice from among the manufacturing or agricultural arts, and he shall be bound to labor at the same daily (except in cases of physical disability) during his term of two years' service in the institution:

Provided, That all persons enlisted shall be supplied at the expense of the Treasury of the United States with suitable clothing, good substantial food, bed, and bedding, and shall be allowed for his daily labor the sum of fifteen cents per day for every day he labors:

Provided, That, at the expiration of two years' service in said institution, or institutions, he, or they, shall be known by the name of "passed laborers in the service of the United States," and shall be at the disposal of the United States for the remaining portion of the five years, to go into the employ of any citizen of the United States, who shall pay into the Treasury of the United States a premium of twenty dollars for every person unto him bound, and give the necessary approved bonds to provide with suitable clothing, good substantial food, bed, and bedding, keep from ill usage, maltreatment, and from any, and all things, and conditions, eminently prejudicial to the health of the person bound, and shall give the necessary approved bonds, and security to pay into the Treasury of the United States the sum of twelve dollars and fifty cents quarterly, in advance, for each laborer he employs.

Resolved, That the government of the United States, at the expiration of five years from date of enlistment, shall pay unto every person enlisted the sum of fifteen cents per day, for every day's labor, during the term of two years' institution service; and unto every "passed laborer," the sum of seventy-five dollars annually; providing he, or they, shall have given quarterly notice of his, or their, whereabouts, unto the proper receiving officer in the State wherein he, or they, may be laboring.

Resolved, That the time allotted for each day's labor shall not exceed ten hours.

Resolved, That, for the space of one hour every morning, and for the space of one hour every evening, during the term of two years' institution service, every, and all persons so enlisted shall be drilled in the regular drill of the United States' army:

Provided, That the said two hours shall be deducted from the time allotted for each day's labor.

Resolved, That all "passed laborers in the service of the United States" shall respond to any order from the Federal government. Any person who shall fail to respond immediately to an order from this government, shall be known, and punished as a deserter from the regular army of the United States.

Resolved, That the officers in these institutions shall be a President and Vice-President over all; a Superintendent over each and every one of them; for every 20 men a Corporal; for every 100 men a Captain; for every 1000 men an Adjutant-General.

Resolved, That the term for which any officer may hold his appointments shall not exceed, for a Corporal, two years; for a Captain, three years; for an Adjutant-General or Superintendent, five years:

Provided, That the President and Vice-President may hold their offices during good behaviour.

Resolved, That all officers in the said institution, or institutions, during the term of their appointment, shall have equal rank and privileges with the same grade of officers in the regular army of the United States.

Resolved, That all promotions shall be in regular order from "passed laborer" to Corporal; from Corporal to Captain; from Captain to Adjutant-General, Superintendent, or Receiving Officer, according to the discretion of the President; the same being approved by a committee appointed from the House of Representatives:

Provided, That no person who is without full privileges, as a citizen, or naturalized citizen of the United States, shall exceed the rank of Corporal, and that in all cases

the President and Vice-Presidents must be native born citizens.

Resolved, That the manner of accusing, and determining the guilt or innocence of any person accused, who may be enlisted in this service, shall be as follows:

Any laborer accused of misdemeanor, shall be reported by his Corporal unto his Superintendent, who thereupon shall appoint six unbiassed corporals to judge the case, and determine the punishment if found guilty. Should the decision be appealed from by the Captain on command unto the Adjutant-General for the district, the latter shall appoint six other unbiassed corporals to judge the case, and determine punishment if found guilty. Their decision being final.

Any Corporal accused of misdemeanor, shall be tried and judged by his officers next in rank, in the same form and manner as in the case of a laborer.

Any Captain or Adjutant-General accused of misdemeanor, shall be tried and judged according to the rules and regulations existing in the regular army of the United States.

Any Superintendent, or receiving officer, accused of misdemeanor, shall be tried and judged by the United States Court for that District. If found guilty, he shall be dismissed by the President.

Any, or all, accusations against the President or Vice-President, must be tried and judged as in the case of a Chief Justice of the United States.

Resolved, That at the expiration of five years' service to the Federal Government, under the foregoing resolutions, any person not a native citizen of the United States, shall, on declaring his oath to support the government of the United States, be considered a naturalized citizen, and shall have all the rights and privileges of such.

Provided, That this article shall not refer to any person who is debarred by nature from enjoying the rights of citizenship.

Resolved, That any person enlisted, who is entitled to vote, either as a citizen or a naturalized citizen, shall have

full permission in the State he may be in, to cast his vote, as in his judgment he may think proper, on all questions relating to the Federal government which may be referred to the people.

Resolved, That there shall be established in all of the said Institutions, a school for instructing after the regular hours of daily labor, all persons enlisted who may wish to accept of the benefits of an education in the primary branches of the English language.

Resolved, That all the products of the foregoing Institutions shall be transported into some foreign country or countries, excepting such as may be used for purposes of the Federal government.

The combined intention of these resolutions, centres in the gradual abolition of slavery in the United States, by a process eminently advantageous to the owners of such property; also to elevate, and give more extensive advantages to the working classes; to give our manufacturers more practical, and greater facilities in labor, as a means of abolishing the tariff on articles of necessity, and to enable the Federal government to command sufficient power to enforce respect to its laws and honor, both at home and abroad.

Slavery has become the cause of much discontent throughout all sections of the country. In the South, the system is becoming too expensive and dangerous to admit of a long competition by our Cotton States with the cotton-fields recently discovered in China and Africa, and as some system of forced labor is necessary to the interests and prosperity of the Southern States, it is therefore the duty of Congress to endow a satisfactory form of permanent labor, for the greater development of our internal resources.

Considering the time of infancy, youth, and old age in a slave, he is of no practical value to the owner until he becomes worth \$800. The average number of years a slave is worth \$800 will not exceed twenty: this makes a yearly expense of forty dollars per slave. Computing interest at six per cent., the yearly item of interest is forty-eight dollars, making a total yearly expense of eighty dollars, (omitting the cost of keeping in both instances.)

By employing men from any of the government institutions, a planter could get workmen at a cost of fifty dollars per year, over an original outlay of twenty dollars, recurring every three years. As the interest item of forty-eight dollars on the original capital expended in slave labor would also bear interest, therefore the only amount on which you can now compute interest will be the difference between the yearly interest calculation of the former, and the original outlay and yearly expense of the latter, say, eight and two-third dollars, making a total of fifty-seven dollars and nineteen cents per year on every man, which shows an annual gain of thirty dollars and eighty-one cents on the body, over slave labor.

A planter who now requires the assistance of three hundred slaves would be overstocked with two hundred regular workmen. An additional advantage of over \$5000 per year; and allowing fifty dollars a year as the cost of keeping one valuable slave, it would increase the gain \$5000 on the reduced force of one hundred men; making a total annual saving of \$19,243 through the system of "passed laborers."

These propositions entirely annul the ever accepted idea, that placing the free and slave negro in close contact at daily labor, will endanger the peace and property of the owner. The political regeneration of the free negro will absolutely depend on his close observance of the laws, and his superiority over the slave. In case of rebellion, he, as a "passed laborer in the service of the United States," must obey an order from the federal government to quell it; any hesitation forfeits the value of his labor for years, also deprives him of life as a deserter from the United States army. Any conniving at rebellion will ensure the same result, and the State or owner, by paying a small premium to the "passed laborer," can always ensure the detection and arrest of any unfaithful slave.

Unless our manufacturers receive from Congress greater facilities in their business than a protective tariff can offer, our commercial relations will soon be thrown entirely on the defensive. As a source of revenue to the government, a tariff on articles of necessity, throws the national expenses

principally on the poorer classes, and with all the extraordinary benefits granted to our manufacturers by the tariff, foreign nations still compete successfully on our own soil, in producing articles at a cheaper cost; whereas every advantage from nature, climate, and territory is possessed by our producers.

Labor, in being systematized, will reveal the double advantage of benefiting both employer and employed. The latter, after having served a five years' apprenticeship to the government, would be a finished workman, suitable for any branch of his trade; or, he could command \$325, and purchase two hundred acres of government land and employ two of the choicest laborers in the country to till it, and have the ever open chance of promotion, honor, wealth, and excellence. If an emigrant, he could be instructed in the language, manners, and customs of our people. On becoming naturalized, his highest hope and dearest interests would entirely depend on a faithful obedience to his solemn oath, and the country in return, would receive the benefit of his experience and labor, at least threefold sooner. Every channel of industry and commerce would be vastly increased; our manufacturers could always command workmen of four years' experience, at one-third the present cost for assistance. Foreign competition would necessarily be driven from the country, and leave the entire nation as a field for domestic enterprise and zeal.

The manufacturers of England and France, at present derive their commercial superiority from the benefits they obtain in receiving the difference in the cost of labor between their own and less civilized nations. For instance, say the cost of a yearly laborer in England is two hundred dollars, and in China, Africa, Japan, or Persia, it is fifty dollars for the same amount of labor in different productions; each nation consuming the exchange of the other. Therefore the manufacturer whose nation originates the system of exchanges, and pays the highest price for labor, (provided the same may not endanger their prospects by a competition from other nations whose labor is cheaper,) receive the difference in the cost of producing between the two countries. The profit thus obtained by the manufacturers, occa-

sions a proportionate loss to the consumers, which is divided equally between the consumers of *both* countries.

Our nation can produce more bountifully and in greater variety than any other, and is, perhaps, the only one that can offer its workmen any reasonable chance of great success.

The yearly expense of each laborer in any of these institutions would not exceed one hundred dollars; we, therefore, could compete more extensively with, and conquer the productions of any other nation in the same business.

By this means, our government, through its institutions, would receive as a revenue at least forty dollars per year on every laborer employed, besides the usual profit on the exchanges, and a tariff on all articles of a luxurious tendency. Thus, our governmental expenses would be transferred from our working classes unto those who receive the greater protection; and *unto the laboring classes of less civilized nations.*

The general trade of the country would naturally follow in every channel opened by the national institutions, and the latter could open resources in other, and at present unknown fields, thereby commercially conquering and civilizing throughout every portion of the globe.

Every government, in assuming a general control, is bound, in defence of its honor and behests, to have command of a suitable force to ensure a faithful compliance from its own citizens, and undoubted respect from other governments. The originators of our mode of government rightly determined that a republican form of government, and a large standing army were incompatible; and even if the two systems were not naturally opposed to each other, the amount of force required on our vast territory would be a most oppressive tax on the inhabitants; the general suffrage of the people was therefore depended on for stability to our government, but in the present difficulties this system has proved a fallacy, and we must adopt some power for coercion, which will neither take the form of a standing army nor that of a voluntary militia service.

As a means of preventing or quieting internal dissensions, it is very prejudicial to a compact union and all friendly

feeling throughout the entire country, for the Federal government to seek assistance from any sister State or States; and even for defence against the incursions of foreign enemies, the efficiency of our militia can be ~~scarcely~~ ^{seriously} questioned, after considering the present incensed feeling between different sections of the country. It is, therefore, the imperative duty of Congress to establish its general superiority at home, and its respect abroad by a sufficient power, subject only to the Federal authority; and partly with this idea we ask that you will recommend Congress to establish such institutions as an auxiliary in the enforcement of its laws, and protection to its property in all parts of the land.

Our country at present trembles at every change in law, territory, or President; the leaders of the nation on the approach of danger, or in the existence of it, seek to *divide* the Union by defining geographical lines, instead of *uniting* it by indissoluble bonds. Land is not the point in question. It is a want of equilibrium in representation, in labor, and the tariff on cotton goods.

The former can never be adjusted while the North receives so overwhelming a proportion of the emigration; the channels of labor have been almost entirely diverted from the Southern country, and should be restored by all Union-loving people; the tariff on cotton goods is eminently unjust to the cotton-growing States, although at present a necessary protection to the Northern manufacturers. Therefore, nothing short of a direct interference from government will readjust the equality of the different sections. The vast, populous, and wealthy country comprising the Northern States should certainly be shown an earnest consideration to its growing desire for the final abolition of slavery in the United States; and if it is willing to offer the South a system of permanent labor, preferable both to the pecuniary and practical interests of that section, a refusal of acceptance on their part would place the people in the position of disrespect to all nations of the civilized world.

The principal point depends upon how such a system would affect our workingmen. A voluntary laborer on discharging his special obligations to the government, would

possess more real value in education, health, capacity for business, and money, than nine-tenths of them can show at the present day on five years' service.

The channels of a gradual promotion unto the highest offices in the country would be so numerous, that industry and aptness in trade would almost invariably meet a great reward.

Where a man does possess a family, the government might allow his family a subsistence to the amount of value for his labor, and at the original cost of producing; and he who has become well trained to his business could always obtain employment as a finisher of work. The manufacturing business would increase so rapidly, that before ten years those who would be needed as finishers would equal our present total force of desirable laborers in that line.

A strong, and mighty emigration would immediately press to our shores; the government could Americanize them, and make a devoted loyalty to our institutions the second object of their lives; the surplus, and generally charity population of every city would be usefully scattered throughout the territories; the negroes could find honorable and tempting means of subsistence in a climate more suitable to their nature, and which absolutely requires them.

The might and grandeur of the government would be thrown into the hands of our workingmen; it would be impossible for a foreign army to penetrate a single day's march inland, and civil discord would be forever quelled.

A line of fifty freight steamers, (capable of a speedy transition into vessels of war,) would be necessary to convey the productions of these institutions into foreign countries. We thereby could command a powerful silent navy, without the cost of constructing a single vessel of war; our regular army would be the largest of any nation in the world, at an expense of three and one-half cents a day per man without the cost of maintenance, and the prosperity and greatness of the country would be forever removed from Congress, directly into the hands of the producers and consumers.

JULIUS A. WATERMAN, }
J. F. FERNLY, } of the City of Philadelphia.

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SUPPLEMENT.

We, the undersigned, being citizens of the United States, and firmly believing that the Federal government is deprived of a large revenue to which it is justly entitled, do pray that you will petition Congress to adopt the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The general government of the United States, in making and causing to be made, certain coin or coins, in gold, to be used as a legal tender throughout the whole country, intended the same to be the only basis of currency; and whereas, each State, by virtue of its constitutional power, has authorized the issue of certain notes and scrip, representing this coin, as a circulating medium, and for which the Federal government is entitled to a valuable consideration, resulting from its monopoly as the only legal coiners of gold and silver. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That each and every State shall pay into the treasury of the United States a sufficient yearly per centage on all notes, scrip, &c., legalized by the authority of said State or States, as a representative of the coin of the United States, to cover the supposed revenue resulting from the tariff on all goods, the principal ingredient of which is cotton, and that on the first day of January, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy, this act shall be reconstructed, so as to cover any and all deficit resulting from the abolition of the tariff on said goods.

Resolved, That on and after the first day of January, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy, all goods, the principal ingredient of which is cotton, shall be free of duty.

JULIUS A. WATERMAN, }
J. F. FERNLY, } of the city of Philadelphia.

Each State, as a reimbursement, could tax the banks their just proportion, and then levy a stamp tax on all notes, drafts, due-bills, &c., issued from the State where the drawers reside, and bearing over thirty days' time between date of same and maturity. In this manner the taxation would fall very lightly, and altogether on those who receive the principal benefits and protection through the law.